

## BOOK NOTICES

**Systematics/Monographs/Floras/Guides**

R.P. (ROD) RANDALL. 2002. **A Global Compendium of Weeds**. (ISBN 0-9587439-8-3, hbk.). R.G. and F.J. Richardson, P.O. Box 42, Meredith, Victoria 3333, Australia. (Orders: [www.weedinfo.com.au](http://www.weedinfo.com.au), [richardson@weedinfo.com.au](mailto:richardson@weedinfo.com.au), +61-3-5286-1533 fax, VISA, MasterCard, BankCard, AE, checks [Australian dollars only] payable to R.G. and F.J. Richardson). \$A165.00 plus \$A10 postage within Australia, overseas postage: please ask for a quote, 944 pp., almost 21,000 entries, 6 3/4 × 9 3/4".

*From the backcover.*—"Predicting which plants will become weeds is difficult, with the single most important indicator of a species' weed potential being a documented weedy history."

"Until now, the most comprehensive coverage of the world's weed flora was produced in 1979 and listed 6400 species. In this compendium, Rod Randall has compiled a list of almost 21,000 entries, as well as a comprehensive index containing more than 15,000 alternate scientific names and 27,000 common names in numerous languages."

"A *Global Compendium of Weeds* is specifically designed to give anyone interested in the weed potential of a plant a report on its status with, most importantly, further avenues of finding more information through extensive reference listing."

Having received a recent request for information on dragon grass or Chinese alpine rush (*Poa sphondylodes*), I checked the list and to my surprise found it listed. The entry came with eight references that presumably lead you to additional information. A couple of the references also include websites that I checked...two worked and one had already changed addresses. Not a surprise. The index is extensive and includes common and alternate names (synonyms). Table 1 is the source codes (references with the taxonomic and geographic entries) with references and includes 300 references. Table 2 is the source codes for each region represented in the book. This an impressive compilation.—*Barney Lipscomb, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan St, Fort Worth, TX 76102-4060, U.S.A., barney@brit.org.*

CARMINE STAHL and RITA McELVANEY. 2003. **Trees of Texas: An Easy Guide to Leaf Identification**. (ISBN 1-58544-242-9, hbk.). Texas A&M University Press, John H. Lindsey Bldg., Lewis St. 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354, U.S.A. (Orders: [wlawrence@tamu.edu](mailto:wlawrence@tamu.edu), <http://www.tamu.edu/upress>, 800-826-8911). \$29.95 hbk., 338 pp., 18 color, 270 b/w photos, 1 map, Bib., Index, 7 appendices, 8 1/2" × 11".

This book contains numerous life-sized leaf, flower, and fruit images. With more than 200 native and naturalized species organized by leaf shape, it leaves out a number of species. The genus *Crataegus* (hawthorn) has 25–30 species in Texas and Stahl and McElvaney cover nine species. Three species of *Prunus* are cover and yet there are a dozen or more in the state. Nothing is wrong here but one needs to keep in mind that *Trees of Texas: An Easy Guide to Leaf Identification* is a guide to the more common trees of Texas; a very nice one at that with photographs that are sharp and crisp with detail.—*Barney Lipscomb, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan St, Fort Worth, TX 76102-4060, U.S.A., barney@brit.org.*